

APATHY BROKEN.

Attendance Increasing at Political Meetings in the West.

THE ENTHUSIASM IS GROWING.

Results of Gatherings Have Been Gratifying—Few Gold Democrats Reappearing in the Ranks—Congressman English's Catchy Phrase Being Effectively Used—The Old Man With the Goat-Like Beard.

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—The campaign in the middle west has quickened wonderfully within a week. Complaint of apathy is no longer heard on either side. One important test of public interest in the election is found in the attendance upon political meetings and the degree of enthusiasm aroused by the efforts of the spell-binders. Wrongly reading the prevailing quiet as indifference, campaign managers hesitated to give their speakers an early start and postponed the opening of the floodgates of oratory as long as they could with safety, fearing a frost.

The results of the meetings thus far have been most surprising and gratifying all around. There has been a general grand outpouring of the masses and unexpected interest is shown in every quarter, among the high and the low, the rich and the poor. Experienced politicians take courage from the latest developments to increase their estimates of the total vote and to revise their figures considerably in the matter of majorities. Both sides augur to their own advantage, and see in the many evidences of popular uprising improvement in their own chances.

In truth, there is a basis for plausible argument for increased hope on both sides, depending on the point of view. Republicans are now prepared to admit that a good many Gold Democrats have returned to the fold and will vote for Bryan, but they qualify this confession with the explanation that four out of five of such cases of backsliding are those of politicians who have ambitions which can only be gratified by remaining within the organization. Therefore, self-interest impels them to get back in line and work with the machine. The only other course for them is to make their arrangements to permanently stay out of public life, a prospect which in most instances is not pleasant to think about.

Gold Democratic Vote.

The Republican managers have been at special pains to ascertain the numerical extent and importance of the return movement of Gold Democrats, and while some that any should have gone back, they profess to be reasonably well satisfied with the yield of their canvass. They contend that the rank and file of Democrats who left their party four years ago on the money issue are as strongly against Bryan now as they were then, and irrevocably fixed in their purpose to keep pounding at him until all question of a reversal of the judgment of '96 on that issue is settled and out of the way—buried beyond any possibility of resurrection.

The speed-making down to date has not been as fruitful as usual in catchy phrase-making. Bryan has said several clever things, none of them appear to have made the hit that the remark has which was dropped in Columbus when he referred to the coincidence sent by the President on the death of a king, while not a tear had been shed over the death of two republics. That is being taken up by the small fry orators all through the west, and the changes rung on it, to the convulsive applause of hundreds of audiences. It is the nearest approach to his "Cross of Gold and Crown of Thorns" triumph perpetrated by Mr. Bryan this year.

Happy Phrase Coined.

Former Congressman W. E. English, of Indianapolis, coined a phrase which is running through the campaign and will continue to work its way along to the end. It appeared in his letter renouncing the Democratic party and epitomizing the reasons for his opposition into the declaration that the paramount issue of the campaign is Bryanism—a word which, he held, means everything which is offensive to progressive and patriotic Americanism. A Minnesota speaker sends a neat idea along in his description of the different conditions prevailing four years ago and now. He said: "Four years ago the paint was coming off the farmers'

houses in the northwest and the mortgages going on; now the mortgages are coming off and the paint is going on." The old time-honored and useful phrase invented long ago, adopted by President McKinley and Chairman Hanna, concerning the full dinner pail has been reintroduced into this campaign, and is doing heroic service. It is a standard phrase, and is blown into every Republican bottle. It stamps all Republican goods as genuine. The brand cannot be stolen or made use of by any enemy. The inventors and users fear no improvements. It is a good, homely phrase, and is recognized as an old friend in every Republican household. It suggests not only the full stomach, but the abounding pocket-book and generous plenty everywhere.

Meeting Place Changed.

The mile of Chicago lake front at the front door of the centre of the city has been entirely abandoned as a meeting place, and the multitudes who formerly gathered there to hear all sorts of speeches from all sorts of people on all sorts of subjects have been compelled by the march of improvement to go elsewhere. With the consent of the city authorities, they have taken possession of State street, the main business thoroughfare of the city, and throngs gather there every night to listen to a variegated assortment of orators. The scenes witnessed nightly on State street are unique. Nothing like them can be seen in any other American city. Lately the small politicians have taken possession of the street to the exclusion of all other kinds of human talking machines, except Salvation Army preachers, and here and there a patent medicine fakir.

The Democrats got the start in this style of campaigning, but the Republicans soon hit upon the expedient of sending cheeky fellows around to the opposition meetings and "breaking up" the speakers by volleys of hard questions. This method of attack was found effective, and now the innumerable audiences that collect along the club stones to listen to the exhorters seem to be evenly divided in political feeling, and to give themselves over to good-natured enjoyment of the entertainments furnished. The Democratic local managers imported a political street extorter by the name of Crosby, who has made a reputation throughout the country in his peculiar field.

Aroused Vocal Assault.

He has been nearly knocked out of his seat a number of times by the rough people who are put against him. There is nothing brutal in the interruptions, but whichever way he turns and whatever he says arouses vocal assault. A night or two ago he was telling his audiences what Lincoln had said along the lines taken by Bryan, whereas an old man, wearing a soft felt hat, a goat-like beard and a homespun suit, spoke out in a shrill, high-keyed voice that pierced the air like a steam whistle: "That's right, quote Lincoln. He was a Republican. Ain't you got no Democrats you can quote from? Ha, na, ha!" And the crowd took up the laugh in a way that made the extorter squirm. A minute later he announced that the Almighty was with Bryan, because Bryan stood for freedom and personal liberty. Again the old man broke in, this time with, "That's right, that's right. The Almighty is a Republican. The devil, he's a Democrat. Why don't you quote the devil? Bring him into the game; he's the fellow you want." When the crowd had stopped laughing at the sally the old man turned to the crowd, waving his hands over it, and addressed the speaker with this query: "There's where you're going to get the votes for Bryan. D'y'e think them fellows are going to vote for your man? Not much. They've got sense." And so the entertainment continued for half an hour or more, the old granger dividing time with Crosby and getting two-thirds of the applause. Crosby says he can stand up before the average city "interrupter," but when it comes to talking against Rube, he is beyond his depth.

CALDWELL IN MINGO.

Stirs Up the Miners and Farmers. Comparison of the Cleveland Administration and the Present Prosperous Times.

MATEWAN, W. Va., Sept. 23.—Col. C. T. Caldwell addressed one of the most enthusiastic meetings of miners, farmers and citizens here last Saturday night, ever held in Mingo county, and kept them in one roar of laughter and cheering, in his assaults upon the Democracy and what it stands for in this campaign.

The Logan Consolidated Coal & Coke Company here, who mined only four and five cars of coal per day during Cleveland's administration, and run only half time, now mine thirty-five cars per day, and have advertisements out for 200 men. An old miner told Mr. Caldwell that they were paid 15 cents per bushel under Cleveland over a two-inch screening, with three and four days' work a week, and they now get 2½ cents a bushel, over 1½-inch screenings, and can work seven days a week. The Norfolk & Western miners will not be fooled by this boggy of imperialism. They know a good thing that is in sight.

Old Settler Passes Away.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. BERKELEY SPRINGS, W. Va., Sept. 23.—Mr. Samuel Michael, one of the oldest and most respected farmers of this county, aged eighty-five years, was buried yesterday. Seven sons, one daughter, fifty grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren survive him.

Germany's Demand.

BERLIN, Sept. 20.—It is reported on trustworthy information in Shanghai, says a dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger, that Germany will insist upon the destruction of the Chinese coast defenses and the Yang Tse forts as a condition of her entrance upon peace negotiations.

No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good-looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at Logan Drug Co's Drug Store.

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NATIONAL GUARD

Of Pennsylvania Again Demonstrates Its Superiority in Hasty Mobilization—Story of the Midnight Order.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 23.—Once more the National Guard of Pennsylvania has demonstrated that it is the best equipped, best disciplined and most efficient body of citizen soldiers in the world. An illustration of its efficiency was furnished this morning in the hurried concentration of the greater part of General Gobin's Third Brigade at Shenandoah. Think what it means to get an army of regular troops on the move, men whose daily business is soldiering, with equipment and all they need constantly at hand, and then dwell upon the mobilization of citizen soldiers, scattered far and wide, clerks, professional men, merchants, doctors, iron workers, men of every walk of life, after midnight, with telephone and telegraph stations closed in many small towns. That seems an almost impossible task. But listen to the simple story of the mobilization of General Gobin's brigade.

Sheriff Toole, at Shenandoah, feels that his force of deputies is insufficient to restore order and at 7 o'clock in the evening he telephones to Governor Stone for assistance. But the governor is a cautious man. He communicates with citizens and officials, and after being fully satisfied that Sheriff Toole needs the help, he calls to his Adjutant General Stewart, General Gobin and others. Stewart is at Philadelphia, having left Harrisburg late in the afternoon under the impression that no danger of an outbreak was imminent. He quickly returns to the capital.

Responds to Duty.

Gobin is at his home in Lebanon, but, gallant old soldier that he is, he quickly responds to the governor's call and arrives at the executive mansion about the same time as Stewart. Richardson, the ever-ready keeper of the state arsenal, is also at hand. Telegrams and telephone messages are spread before the assembled chiefs of the military establishment of the state. Sheriff Toole is asked again as to the situation, and finally, when the whole matter has been carefully weighed, the decision is made. Troops will be sent.

It is now between midnight and 1 o'clock. Governor Stone issues his order to General Miller, and Major General Miller his order to Brigadier General Gobin, and Brigadier General Gobin to his colonels, and the colonels to the captains, and the captains to the lieutenants, and the lieutenants to the squad leaders, and from lip to lip, on horseback and bicycle, the word is carried from place to place. Men begin to assemble at the usual places of rendezvous. Quartermasters are at work; likewise the commissaries; likewise everybody from top to bottom. It is now a whirling machine. Every wheel is in motion anywhere. General Gobin at 2:30 a. m. is off by special train for Shenandoah. His staff meets him at Lebanon and at 6 o'clock he arrives at the scene of trouble with six companies.

A few hours later, on each succeeding train, the rest of the command arrives, with them the camp equipage. Richardson's skill showing in the prompt transportation of the tents and supplies, and on the slopes of Shenandoah to-night the camp fires of a company fighting force of the state are burning, and the sentinel vigilantly paces his post. Pennsylvania has reason to be proud of its guard, and aside from the rights of miners or the attitude of the operators or anything else in this unfortunate controversy, there must reside deep in the hearts of all citizens of the state a feeling of admiration for the citizen soldiery.

TOPICS OF THE SCHOOLS.

There seems to be at present an increase in the number of private schools over that of a few years ago, and many of our educators are very much exercised over it and are seeking to know the cause. For many years after the establishment of public schools for the education of the masses, it was thought by the majority that they were for the benefit of the poor alone and hence they were taught with the sole object of giving to the children of those not able to pay for it, a knowledge of the branches—reading, writing and arithmetic and they were taught by very indifferent teachers. In some places the teachers were those who had failed in other professions and hence the schools were filled with broken-down lawyers, preachers, physicians and others who had a fair education, but had failed in their chosen profession, whatever it might have been. This continued to be the rule case until the full meaning of a popular education dawned upon us, and while it was the case those who were able to do so, patronized private schools or employed teachers to educate their children at home. But when the people began to realize that an education to all our boys and girls, and the true spirit of the teacher took hold of these engaged in the work, rich and poor alike became pupils of these schools, and the private school for a time, except for special purposes, became a thing of the past. But of late years in many parts of our land these schools are coming to the front, are multiplying and it is well that we know the cause and reasons leading to this state of affairs.

Is it because our public schools are not accomplishing what they are intended to accomplish, i. e., the turning out of good men and good women? Some say this is true and hence some parents are not willing to entrust their children, their girls, at least, to the public school for the formation of that character that goes to the making up of true manhood and womanhood. Another says he will not have his child mingle with the common herd in getting an education, and his boys and girls must go to a high-toned private school. These parents are generally the men and women who think that money is paramount in everything that goes to make up society. Another reason given by the editor of Harper's Magazine is that "our public schools do not give the sort of intellectual and moral training that raises the ideal life." He then says that it requires a school under individual management to do the giving of that training to many pupils under a single teacher in public schools. These are some of the many reasons why private schools exist in almost every community. It is not necessary to give all of them for the purpose had in writing these notes. These will suffice. There is enough in them to cause parents and school officers to think, and to try in every way to make our public schools meet every demand of the hour.

It is well, perhaps, along with opinions of others to give our own opinion of questions as they are met for solution. The writer believes firmly that one of the greatest causes of the multiplication of private schools, or rather the dissatisfaction that exists with regard to our public schools, which, as a matter of course, makes it possible for private schools to flourish, is the crowding of our public schools with so many studies, and making it obligatory that all the pupils must pursue all these studies. There are parents who wish their children to pursue only certain studies after the seventh or eighth year of the child's school life, but in many schools they cannot do this unless they take the entire course of study along with them. Some may say that it is better for them to pursue all. Grant it; but this does not meet the case. The parent will either have the child pursue just the studies he wishes it to pursue, or he will take the child from school, and hence the private school must meet such cases. To make plainer still, there are parents who cannot afford to spare their children long enough to go through the high school, but would gladly let them go one or two years to study certain branches, but they cannot do this unless the entire course is taken, and hence they get no school education except what is received in the ward schools. Would it not be better to have it so arranged in the high school that pupils might attend one or more years and pursue the studies the parent wishes them to pursue? This would be better for the pupil, at least, if not for the general good of the school. There is enough in all this to cause thought, so that out of it all may be evolved a plan that will make our public schools meet the wants of all for the writer believes that private schools ought not to exist at all except as special schools.

After all is said concerning our public and private schools and education in general, the teacher is the great factor in it all, and upon him more than on any or all others depends the success or failure of the school, be it a public or a private one, and nowhere does he show his power as in the recitation. Here he comes in contact with the pupil. If the work of the teacher be well done, happy is the pupil who is under his charge, but if it is done in a careless, slipshod manner far better would it be for that pupil to go forth and listen to nature's teaching. "Exact teaching cultivates clear thinking, and exact expression" on the part of the pupil, while careless teaching does just the opposite. Right methods in teaching, put the burden of the work on the pupil. The talking teacher recites the lesson for the pupil, but the true teacher talks but little. He leads the pupil to do the talking. Much help on the part of the teacher weakens instead of strengthens the pupil. Direct help on the part of the teacher should not be given until every effort has been made to lead the pupil to do the work. The teacher is really but a guide to keep the pupil "straight" in the path of knowledge—him in the "middle of the road," so to speak.

The mother's meetings will be continued in Ritchie school during the present year. They will be held every two months, the first one being held October 10, at the annex building, followed by one at the main building on October 11. These meetings did a great deal of good last year, and they are expected to do a much greater good during this year. Perhaps it would be better to call them parents' meetings during the present year, as fathers will not be excluded, but will be gladly welcomed in cases where it is not possible for the mother to attend. The parent and the teacher are the two great factors in the proper education of the child. When they work harmoniously together, happy is the child. The mother and the teacher should know each other personally. It will help the teacher wonderfully to know just what the mother thinks of the child and her plans used in discipline, and it will help the mother very much to know just how the child acts toward the teacher. True, it may surprise the mother sometimes, but such surprises will do her good.

Thursday of last week may be set down as one day lost in some of the city schools. While the attendance was good in the morning, it was so because the pupils had been assured they would be dismissed in time to see the parade. This being done and the parade being so late, not more than one-fourth of the pupils reported at the afternoon session. Who can arrange it so that circus day will not be one school day lost? We who discuss the matter plan to do this will be noted as a benefit by teachers and pupils both. It seems beneath the dignity of a community to make circus day a holiday, but it is one, nevertheless, to all intents and purposes. It is a traditional holiday.

Professor McMurray in one of his talks at our late Institute, said: "The little details that enter into the telling of stories or the description of places give vitality, relish, sweetness and lucidity to a subject. Many boys, especially, are driven from school because the work is not mixed with the concrete settings of life. These make up the graphic representations so necessary to good teaching." These words need no explanation; they tell their own story. If all our teachers would ponder them well and then act accordingly, there would be improvement noticeable all along the line of teaching.

The regular monthly meeting of the A. B. and grammar teachers of Ritchie school was held in the office of the principal on Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Quite a number of topics were discussed and the principal ruled in arithmetic, and the application of language to writing.

REACHING THE SPOT.

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